Thursday, July 8, 2010 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 25 / No. 210 P18



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

FIRST IN RP Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales concelebrated with 22 bishops dressed in brilliant red robes the Philippines' first "Red Mass" at Manila Cathedral on Wednesday. The Mass, meant to invoke blessings of the Holy Spirit upon the new administration, was attended by President Aquino, Cabinet members, Supreme Court justices and other top government officials.

Ex-agri chief set to talk



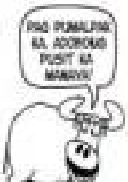
SEER SOCCER An octopus named Paul sits on a box decorated with a Spanish flag and a shell at the Sea Life aquarium in Oberhausen, Germany, on Tuesday.

Mystic mollusk spooks Germany: It picked Spain!

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, A celebrity seer in Germany has either scored a perfect streak or brought huge relief to his host nation by finally getting it wrong.

Either way, he's clearly got the whole soccer world in his tentacles.

Germany was in a state of shock on Tuesday after their "oracle octopus" Paul picked Spain to win the World Cup semifinal match against Germany in South Africa on Wednesday (2:30 a.m. today, Manila time).



MYSTIC A6

Lorenzo to cooperate in scam inquiry

By TJ Burgonio

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT Luis "Cito" Lorenzo will serve as a state witness in the prosecution of the P728-million fertilizer fund scam, but he should not expect kid-gloves treatment when a still to be formed truth commission conducts its inquiry, President Aquino said yesterday.

The former agriculture secretary, who fled to the United States in 2005 to evade testifying at the Senate inquiry into the fund scam, has quietly slipped back into the country and even met Mr. Aquino at a social gathering on July 2.

Speaking with ABS-CBN last night, Lorenzo hinted that there had been threats on his life. But he said he would "definitely cooperate" with the Aquino administration at "the appropriate time."

The question of how Lorenzo would be treated by the new administration vis-à-vis his role in the fund scam has cropped up because his brother Martin Lorenzo con-

EX-AGRICULTURE A8



ANSWERED PRAYERS After last week's snub, the President finally acknowledges Chief Justice Corona on Wednesday during the country's first-ever "Red Mass," a Church-led call to heal the scarred political landscape.

A first: Aquino acknowledges SC chief Corona at 'healing' Red Mass

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

THE RED MASS WAS CELEBRATED for the first time in the Philippines yesterday to pray for enlightenment from the Holy Spirit.

The prayers were answered.

The Red Mass succeeded in bringing together top officials from the executive, the judiciary and the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

Only Valenzuela City Rep. Magtanggol Gunigundo was around to represent Congress.

Chief Justice Renato Corona was thrilled to hear President Aquino acknowledge his presence for the first time in a public gathering after being snubbed at his inauguration just a week ago.

Mr. Aquino did so at the end of the Mass at Manila Cathedral yesterday as he read the "Prayer

A FIRST A8

Golf 'cheating' stymies new customs chief

By Marlon R. Castillo

ONE DAY AFTER THE COUNTRY was notified that he would be the new customs commissioner, Angelito A. Alvarez, an occasional golfer, will be receiving a most unwelcome notice in the next couple of days—a six-month suspension from the posh Alabang Golf and Country Club.

The suspension of the corporate account which Alvarez represents in the club will start on July 15, according to Inquirer sources.

The sources, who requested anonymity, said Alvarez was punished by the club's board, which found that he and three other golfers in his foursome "committed gross violation of the rules of golf" during the well-attended Mango Tee member-guest tournament in February.

News of Alvarez' suspension came on the day he assumed office as customs commissioner.

Apart from the suspension, Alvarez—along with a club member—will also be barred from the premises of the exclusive club during the suspension and from joining the Mango Tee for the next five years.

Alvarez, in a phone interview with the Inquirer, said he did not appeal his disqualification with the tournament committee since he only played in the Mango Tee to enjoy the round of golf.

GOLF A6



ALVAREZ: Caught in a political sand trap

Brownouts hit Times St. amid high Meralco rates

By Christian V. Esguerra and Amy R. Remo

WHILE SEVERAL MILLIONS OF electricity consumers are made to suffer from a new power rate increase this month, the country's most powerful man went home to bear two unexpected brownouts in Quezon City on Tuesday midnight.

President Aquino was winding down following a long drive from a Liberal Party gathering in Tagaytay City when a power outage greeted him at his residence on Times Street. Power was restored shortly, but hours later—while he was in deep slumber—the lights went out again.

It must have been the "rotating brownouts" scheduled by

BROWNOUTS A6

P7B allotted for seniors but no money

By Nikko Dizon

THE GOVERNMENT STILL has to find the billions of pesos it needs to be able to give the country's poor senior citizens a monthly pension of P500 each is entitled to under the Expanded Senior Citizens Law, Social Welfare Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Soliman said yesterday.

In a press briefing, Soliman said the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) was still in the process

P7B ALLOTTED A6

No(y)-holds-barred, newsy media briefing

By TJ Burgonio

NOW KNOW IT BUT PRESIDENT Aquino is media-savvy, and he displayed it effortlessly to the public yesterday.

Only a week into his presidency, Mr. Aquino conducted a no-holds-barred briefing aired over NBN-4, gamely fielding questions on a gamut of issues ranging from a bum stomach to the kidnapping of Filipinos by Somali pirates.

He carried on for nearly one and a half hours, as if he were speaking in his regular conference as a lawmaker, offering more stories than what reporters could handle, even dropping "leads" to potential controversies.

It was his longest press conference since he was proclaimed President-elect, according to a media aide, providing a complete departure from his predecessor, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who tried to get cozy with reporters only in the last few months of her term.

On a personal note, Mr.

NO(Y)-HOLDS-BARRED A6

Full release of Mayuga report set

By Christian V. Esguerra

AFTER READING THROUGH it, President Aquino is considering the full disclosure of the 4-year-old report of an inquiry into claims some of the military top brass were involved in the alleged rigging of the 2004 elections for then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. It was never made public.

Mr. Aquino yesterday said he received shortly before his inauguration on June 30 what ap-

FULL A6

Noynoy to keep pork as 'concept,' figures to change

BY TJ Burgonio and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT AQUINO YESTERday said his administration would keep the controversial pork barrel in the national budget but it would be limited to projects urgently needed by the lawmakers' constituents.

Mr. Aquino said he would retain the pork barrel "as a concept, but the figure would be different."

As for specific figures, he said: "We're still studying the budget."

Mr. Aquino welcomed a party mate's proposal to slash the pork barrel allocations by half but said the present amounts should be retained until a "perfect system" of distribution based on the needs of constituents was drawn up.

"If we can justify that these are needed by our constituents

NOYNOY A6

Second FRONTPAGE



Enrile might keep Senate post

By Christine O. Avendaño

EVEN SEN. FRANKLIN DRILON SAID YESTERDAY THAT SENATE President Juan Ponce Enrile was still in the running for the Senate's top post.

[illegible]

Noynoy an early bird this time

By Leila B. Salaverria

[illegible]

FDA

08 Hulyo 2010

PAUNAWA MULA SA DOH – FDA
Blg. 2010-007

BABALA SA PUBLIKO TUNGKOL SA MGA PRODUKTONG HERBAL NA WALANG LABEL:

"MAG-INGAT SA/HUWAG BUMILI NG MGA PRODUKTONG HERBAL NA WALANG LABEL."

Mahalaga ang pagkakaroon ng label sa mga produkto. Dito nakasaad ang sangkap o nilalaman ng isang produkto, ang pangalan at address ng gumawa nito.

Ang Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ay nakakatanggap ng mga salaysay o reklamo ukol sa paggamit ng mga **PRODUKTONG HERBAL NA WALANG LABEL** na nagdulot ng masamang epekto sa tao. Ang publiko ay pinaaalalahanan na mag-ingat at huwag uminom o gumamit ng mga produktong ito.

Hindi rehistrado sa FDA ang mga produktong herbal na ito kung kaya walang siyentipikong pagsasaliksik at dokumentong magpapatunay na ligtas at epektibo ang paggamit nito.

NAZARITA T. TACANDONG, RPh, MPA
Acting Director IV

No siren for new US envoy

By Cynthia D. Balana

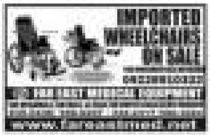




Pagasa hoping rains would clear haze over Metro, Naia

By Alexis Papa

RAIN, RAIN COME TODAY, SO the ...



'DIPLOMATIC NIGHT' PLEA

US envoy seeks probe of media slays

By Cynthia D. Balana

ALARMED BY THE INCREASING NUMBER of journalists being killed in the Philippines, ...



Correction

The Daily Gospel

FIRST WAVE

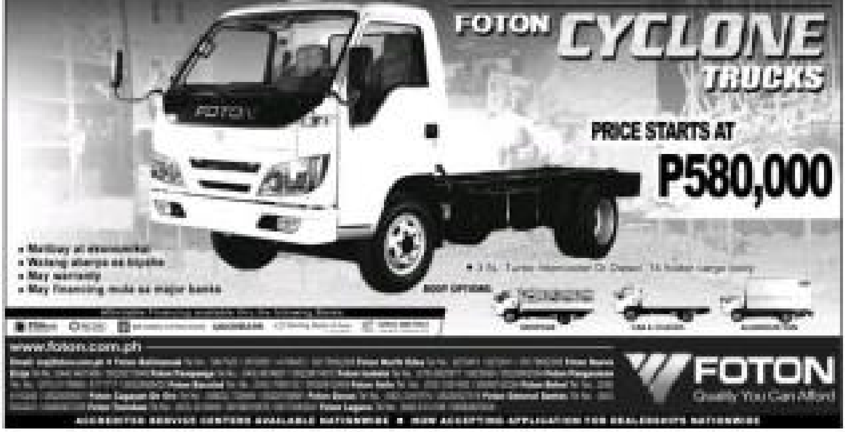
AFP bares revamp

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES ...

Fugitive rebel soldier yields

By Jocelyn R. Uy



DSWD asec dies

By Nikko Dizon

THE DEPARTMENT of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is ...

20 FOR 98 SO FAR

A losing season for Ombudsman

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

'Plain harassment'

Processing graft

ILL-GOTTEN WEALTH

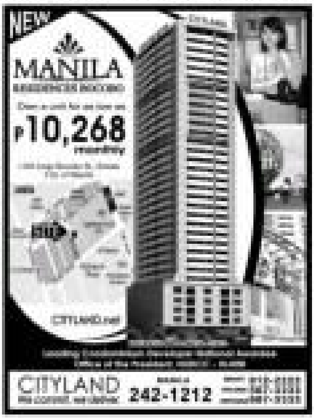
PCGG eyes P21-B sale of assets

By Philip C. Tubeza



Noli goes 'home' to ABS-CBN







Full release of Mayuga report set

79 witnesses

Truth commission

Estrada objects to Davide

Recommendatory

Golf 'cheating' stymies new customs chief; he's suspended from club

'Very light one'

Major transformation

'Leadership by example'

₱7B allotted yearly for poor seniors but gov't still looking for money

P7B needed

VAT issue

Electricity bill discounts

Seniors' hotlines

Wood, restaurant discounts

Mystic mollusk spooks Germany: It picked Spain!

Food and flag

Lone error in '08

Growing superstition

A great meal. A great deal more.



Enjoy Citi's best dining deals or get your money back.

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citibank

A first: Aquino acknowledges SC chief Corona

Overjoyed

'Peace be with you'

Tongues of fire

Brownouts hit Times Street amid soaring Meralco rates

Accidental trip-off

Napocor, too

VAT scrapping

High generation costs

No(y)-holds-barred media briefing full of newsy disclosures

Garcia et al.

'Recomposition'

Noynoy to keep pork as 'concept' but numbers to change

Source of corruption

Lacson breaks silence, backs pork cuts

Personal opinion

Only gimmickry

Worried neophytes

Ex-agriculture secretary set to talk



LORENZO

Birthday party

Exile

Admit guilt first

Gordon committee thorough

Investigate him

BREAKING NEWS, BREAKING RECO



ADS HYUNDAI BOLSTERS TOP 3 SPOT WITH RECORD-BREAKING 100.6% GROWTH



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Cry fraud

EDITORIAL

THE REPORT ON ALLEGED FRAUD IN THE COUNtry's first nationwide automated elections [illegible]

[illegible]



The task of a truth commission

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

[illegible]

Stop the killings

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

[illegible]

God and the Pope under attack (Part 1)

OUTLOOK



Rigoberto Tiglao

Pass bicameral version of FOI bill ASAP!

HUMAN FACE



Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

Economics of hope

COMMENTARY

Sylvia L. Mayuga

Beautiful letdown

YOUNG BLOOD

Nickie Ner

Opinion

LETTERS

Suggested 'musts' for more transparency among officials

Ombudsman rules solely on facts, evidence

DAR asked to also 'attend' to 'haciendas'



PBR to bring about better service—Meralco

Across the NATION

Church steps up war on Ecija casino

By Armand Galang

CABANATUAN CITY—PRODDING THE GOVERNment to instead focus on strengthening values education and step up the fight against corruption and poverty, the Catholic Church in Nueva Ecija maintained its position against the opening of a casino in San Leonardo town.

Execs stop North Luzon 'missionary flights'



Oil spills in 2 RP cities reminders of US disaster

New gov heeds bishops, vows to plant 1M trees

Gov opens Negros to more coal plants

By Carla P. Gomez

Rescue of Comelec exec's son suspended by police

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

‘Paraw’ race celebrates pineapple fest



By Jesus Cabilas Sobia

HIGH WAVES CRASHED ON Bagasbas Beach in Daet, Camarines Norte, during the last months of the year, making the sea very rough for small fishermen to brave but inviting to surfing enthusiasts.

[illegible]

Lions shuffle Cards, keep pace with Stags

By Marc Anthony Reyes



RP Little Leaguers bat for six of 8 titles



Dutch booters reach WC final

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA—

Armstrong's Tour bid hits a snag

Uniting sports Garcia's top priority at PSC

Viloria back in action Saturday

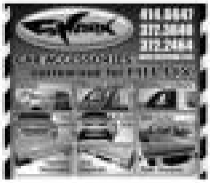


Rivera sizzles with 3 perfect games

By Marc Anthony Reyes







SPORTS



Rain or Shine thwarts Coke

Painters clinch final q'final berth

RP U-18 five rips Singapore

A plus METRO
Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday

DID YOU KNOW
ABOUT nine out of 10 fetal deaths recorded in Metro Manila in 2008 were medically attended.
Inquirer Research

LRT official rules out fare increase



HIGH RISE A shanty sits on top of a two-story house in Pandacan, Manila.

'Proposed hike wishful thinking on DOF's part'

By Paolo G. Montecillo

LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT) commuters can heave a sigh of relief, at least for now.

In an interview yesterday, LRT Authority Administrator Mel Robles said no fare hike would be imposed anytime soon, saying any additional burden on the riding public would be a "bad start [for] the new administration."

"There have been no deliberations whatsoever," he added.

His statements were in reaction to pronouncements made by the Department of Finance (DOF) earlier this week that fare hikes at the heavily subsidized LRT Lines 1 and 2 would help the government address its budget shortfall which is projected to hit record levels this year.

"That's just wishful thinking on the part of the DOF which is understandable because [they] subsidize LRT operations," he said.

The LRTA manages LRT Line 1 which runs from Baclaran to Monumento and Line 2 which plies Recto to Santolan.

At the moment, LRT tickets cost P15 to P15 each, depending on a passenger's destination, making the overhead train system the cheapest form of mass transportation in Metro Manila.

However, Robles said the fares are low because the government subsidizes as much as P40 per passenger.

Close to half a million passengers ride on Line 1 while Line 2 averages P250,000 passengers daily.

The last fare increase imposed by the LRT was seven years ago. "A fare hike is just wishful thinking by the DOF," Robles said.

Before any fare hike can be implemented, it has to be approved by the LRT Board which has representatives from the Department of Transportation and Communications and the Office of the President.



QC police official denies extortion raps

By Nancy Carvajal

A QUEZON CITY POLICE SUPERINTENDENT yesterday denied accusations of extortion filed against him and his men in the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office by the wife of an alleged drug dealer arrested on Saturday.

Supt. Crisostomo Mendoza, the intelligence head of the Quezon (province) anti-narcotics unit when authorities discovered 500 kilos of shabu that led to the imprisonment of a former town mayor, expressed disappointment over his relief after Jeannie Seo told authorities that her husband, John Ong Seo, was a victim of a frame-up and extortion by Mendoza and six other policemen.

"The suspects wants to discredit us. We hope our superiors adopt a hands-off policy and just let the case take its course," Mendoza told Inquirer.

Mendoza said Seo was arrested inside a supermarket along Commonwealth Avenue on Saturday afternoon in a buy-bust operation. He was caught as he tried to sell 50 grams of shabu worth P400,000 to an undercover agent.

The suspect is now detained at the Quezon City Police District. He has been charged with peddling illegal drugs and had not been granted bail, Mendoza said.

Seo had been under surveillance for more than a month before his arrest, he added.

Mendoza was relieved as station commander of QCPD Station 6 upon the orders of National Capital Regional Police Office head Chief Supt. Roberto Rosales. The official said he had submitted an operations report backing up their claim that Seo had been selling illegal drugs.

In the affidavit filed by Seo's wife, Mendoza and his men—SPO3 Isidro Torres, SPO1 David Capaide, PO1 Eldin Dino, Chief Insp. Julius Cesar Aldaya, PO3 Miguel Gregory Jr. and PO1 Danilo Ferre were accused of robbery, kidnapping, qualified theft, car theft and violation of domicile.

Seo claimed the policemen asked her for P1 million in exchange for changing her husband with a lesser offense. She also claimed that the accused still had in their possession her husband's Rolex watch, P21,000 in cash, cell phones worth P20,000 and a wallet containing his credit and automated teller cards.

Stall vendor nabbed for selling gov't-owned textbooks in Manila

By Tina G. Santos



NUTRITION MONTH Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim (right) and Vice Mayor Francisco Domagoso distribute food packs and milk to children during Monday's celebration of Nutrition Month at city hall.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 90, QUEZON CITY

STAY ORDER

SHAPE UP OR HEADS WILL ROLL

MMDA cracks down on traffic enforcers

By Nita Calleja and Tina G. Santos

Three hours earlier

Crackdown in Manila

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
INVITATION TO BID
FOR THE SALE OF JUNK / SCRAP METALS
USED / WASTE OIL AND ACBR

The grouchy and uninformed DepEd secretary

On Target



Ramon Tulfo

Queen calls for peace, lays wreath for 9/11 victims



Solar plane takes off for 24-hour flight



SOLAR Impulse with an 80-meter wingspan.

Lindsay Lohan: From A-list to jail



LOHAN: No alcohol or drugs

The WORLD

Nato air strike kills 5 Afghan allies

KABUL—NATO MISTAKENLY KILLED FIVE OF ITS Afghan military allies in an air strike on Wednesday while the Afghans were attacking insurgents in the country's east, officials said.

Probe launched

Another setback

British pullout

US files suit to throw out Arizona law on illegals



GORING-FREE BULL RUN

Justice exec put to death in China for corruption

Noted pianist accused of pedophilia in Thailand

WorldBriefs

Russia offers to swap scientist for spy

Crisis cost rich countries 17 million jobs

Iran backs down on tax after merchant protest

UK court rules in favor of gay asylum seekers

'Honey, I shrunk the proton'

'Barefoot burglar' hunted in the Bahamas



COLTON Harris-Moore

BUSINESS

Gross reserves climbed to $48.4B in June

Central bank official says full-year GIR may exceed 2010 target

THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN CURRENCY STOCK reached $48.4 billion as of end-June, up by 1.5 percent, or $700 million, from the $47.7 billion posted in May, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
46.555



STOCK MARKET
14.37



Shares close up

PSE rapped for failing to disclose measures

Growth seen to slow, but no need to panic

HK firm to establish wind farm in Quezon




THE
ROYALE

Business

PNB, Allied take major step closer to a merger

California bank sold

PEMC seeks rate hike

Sterling, Centennial complete alliance

ANI buys firm to expand mango exports

ADB plans to install solar panel on roof

Gross reserves climbed to $48.4B in June

PSE rapped for failing . . .

Shares . . .

Growth seen to slow . . .

Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

BUSINESS

Bank lending up by 7.7% in May

P2.3T in loans, the highest since December 2009



Money supply expands by 10.7%

Rice stocks enough for 3 mos

Telco reorganizes BPO operations

Subic H1 investments hit $185.9M

GOINGS-ON

LIFESTYLE Food











From the Inaugural menu—Fried Beancurd and Eggplant in Sesame Sauce, and Yakitori

KITCHEN RESCUE



The no-frills Japanese food for the President's official family



Hairloss is wrecking her life and she doesn't know why.





Glenda Barretto returns to Malacañang

By Margaux Salcedo
Contributor

[illegible]



GLENDA Barretto with her Inauguration Day bar shots

The menu was simple—the requirement was 'bar chow'—but with this chef, simple is not synonymous with plain or boring

Chef extraordinaire

[illegible]

Filipino theme

[illegible]



FLORIST weaving coconut leaves



DINING table on the lanai



FRIED Beancurd and Eggplant with Sesame Sauce

From the Inaugural menu—Fried Beancurd . . .

From page C1

Décor

[illegible]



SUSHI and sashimi



TEMPURA

Yakitori

[illegible]

Fried Beancurd & Eggplant in Sesame Sauce

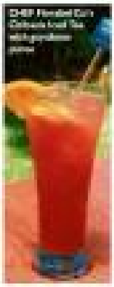
[illegible]

Okonomiyaki

[illegible]

Perks and discounts make dining out more pleasurable







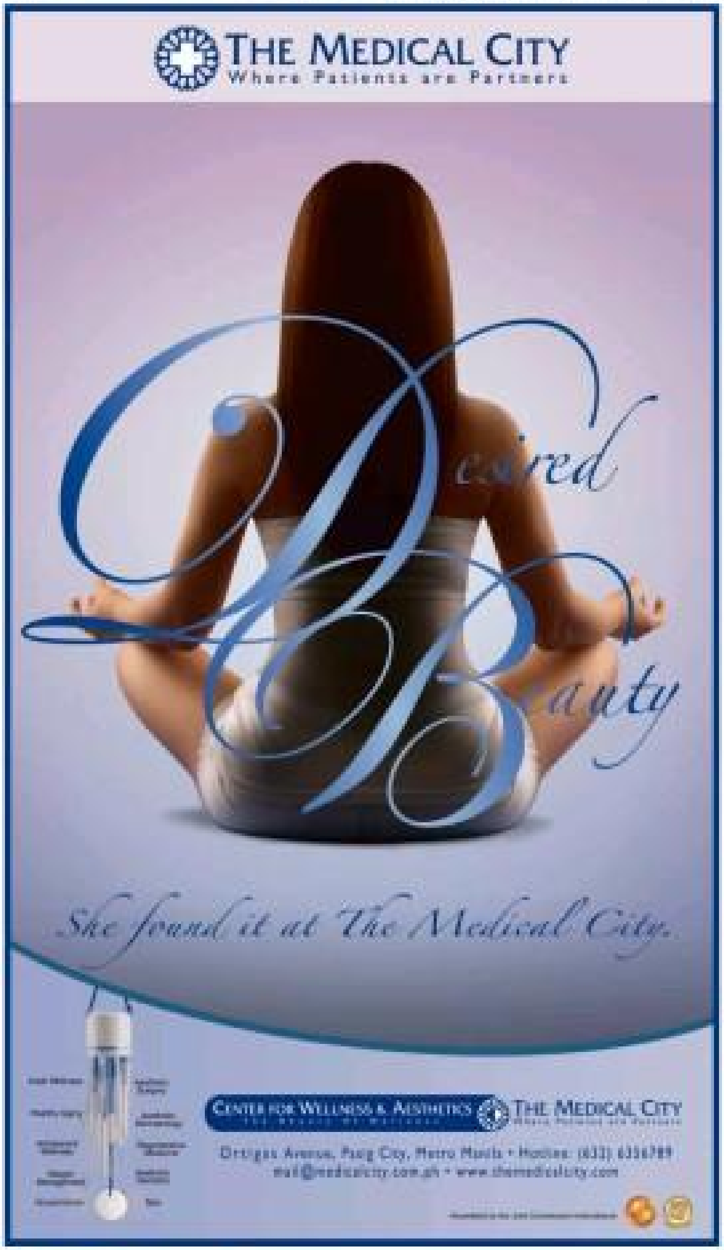


Create your own maki



Steaks and more from fine Batangas beef







ASSORTED cheese and deli items

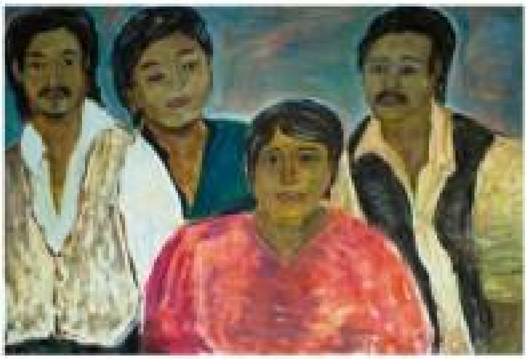
Gastronomic extravaganza







ENTERTAINMENT





The other Johnny Delgado





Brazilians celebrate 32 RP movies

Showcase is funded by Centro Cultural Banco de Brazil





RAPHAEL Mesquita and Leonardo Levis (right) at the fest in Rio de Janeiro

Brazilians …

From page D1

[illegible]

Encouraging

[illegible]

Did You Know...

2 retro groups in one concert

[illegible]



The other Johnny Delgado





Alicia Mayer devoted to little son



Rewards

Wrong perception

Emmys concluding strong TV season

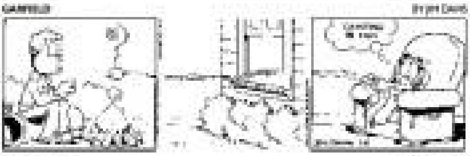


Overdue

ENTERTAINMENT

■ Lea Salonga awestruck by Cecile Licad Backstory/E4

GARFIELD — By Jim Davis



A-LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVELOTS



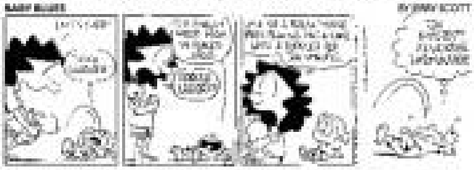
JAMES BOND



DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES — By Jerry Scott



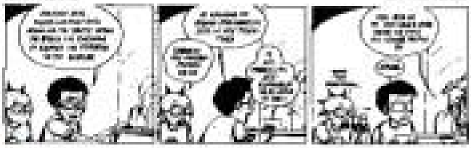
TULOG



BEN — By Daniel Shelton



KIKO MACHINE



SHERMAN'S LAGOON — By Jim Toomey



HOROSCOPE

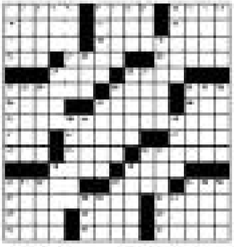
CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

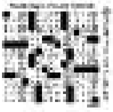
HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

	9						1	
3			7		9			2
			8		4			
	8	3				4	9	
	1	9				5	8	
			9		2			
4			3		5			7
	6						2	

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





Exactly the right time to end 'Toy Story'





A LAST hug: Buzz, Woody

[illegible]

A big bang

[illegible]

Bittersweet

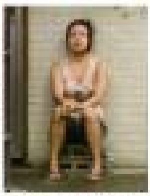
[illegible]

All agog for Mr. Gay

[illegible]

Cinemalaya: They shoot . . .

From page E1



[illegible]

Different perspective

[illegible]

Proud of Gerard . . .

From page E1

[illegible]

Magical

[illegible]

What's next?

[illegible]







Cinemalaya: They also shoot shorts, don't they?

Spotlight on seldom-hyped festival entries

By Bayani San Diego Jr.



Ambitious

Personal journey

Proud of Gerard, awestruck by Cecile Licad

BACK STORY



Flower guy

A treat

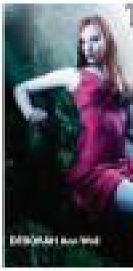
Perfect acoustics



CECILE Licad: Emotional transparency

The problematic world of a 17-year-old vampire

"True Blood's" Deborah Ann Woll on virginal vampire Jessica



DEBORAH Ann Woll